

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2315
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
PUBLICATION OF TAMIL INSCRIPTIONS
P.D. ELANGO VAN

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of Tamil Inscriptions discovered in South India, dynasty-wise, chronologically;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to publish all the discovered Tamil Inscriptions and the South Indian Inscription;
- (c) whether the Government have appointed sufficient staff to conduct survey, studies research on the Tamil Inscription discovered so far; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

- (a) The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has enlisted, copied and reported on about 25290 Tamil inscriptions from South India belonging in the chronological order as mentioned in the annexure.
- (b) All the above- mentioned Tamil inscriptions have been reported on in 103 volumes of the Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy of the ASI. In addition, five out of twenty-seven volumes of the South Indian Inscriptions are devoted exclusively to the Tamil inscriptions.
- (c) & (d) For Dravidian languages, the sanctioned strength of the posts comprises one Superintending Epigraphist, three Deputy Superintending Epigraphists, two Assistant Superintending Epigraphists and six Senior Epigraphical Assistants.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2315 REPLIED To ON 18.03.2002

1. Pallavas
2. Banas
3. Cholas
4. Rashtrakutas
5. Hoysalas, (rulers of) Kongu
6. Kadavarayas
- 7 Pandyas of Tenkasi
8. Vijayanagara
9. Samburaya
10. Nayakas of Madurai
11. Nayakas of Tanjore, and
12. Some miscellaneous kings